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It will be only just, therefore, to express at once our hearty commendation of the work which Mr. Jackson has done, and to say that the glossary, as he modestly calls it,² is not only by far the largest and most comprehensive botanical dictionary in the English language, but by far the best. Concise definitions, brief derivations, and the accents are given for almost 15,000 words, which is about three times the number in Crozier's hastily compiled dictionary, issued a few years ago in this country. The only English botanical dictionaries are long since out of date and practically useless.

Mr. Jackson has succeeded remarkably well in traversing the whole range of our terminology. Even very new words have not escaped him, for he includes such terms as *edaphic*, *tropophyte*, *geophyte*, *coenocentrum*, *compound oosphere*, etc. Most of the definitions are concise and good; some, however, are incomplete, *e. g.*, *tree*, *xerophyte*; some are careless or ambiguous, *e. g.*, *coenocentrum*, *mycorrhiza* (misspelled mycorrhiza), *geophyte*; and some are antiquated or erroneous, *e. g.*, *archesporial cells*, *chlorovaporization*, *oogenesis*, *fertilization*, *sperm cell*, etc. The accent given does not always coincide with lexicons, *e. g.*, *medullary* and *elâter*. In the former case it does not coincide with usage in this country though the author says *medullary* is the usage in England. And if usage even permits *elâter*, it violates all rules of quantity.

Part, perhaps a large part, of the faults are due to the extreme condensation of the definitions. This might have been avoided, without making the volume of inconvenient size, by dispensing with a number of words derived from Crozier's dictionary, which, as inquiry and search indicate, neither have nor have had botanical use in literature, *e. g.*, *gusset*, *ensate*, *hydroid*, *polydelphous*, *secondine*, etc. Greater fullness of the definitions might also have been compensated for by using thinner paper, instead of the thick and stiff stock, which, together with the stiff binding (entirely unfit for such a reference book), prevents the book from opening comfortably or lying open. But blemishes such as these, the more noticeable because so easily avoidable, may well be overlooked in view of the good qualities, too many to enumerate, which distinguish this book from its predecessors. Every laboratory needs a copy on its shelves.—C. R. B.

MINOR NOTICES.

THE FOURTH PART of the "Catalogue of Welwitsch's African plants," by W. P. Hiern, and published by the British Museum, has just appeared, including Lentibulariaceæ to Ceratophyllæ. The occasion of the publication was stated in the review of the first part, published in the GAZETTE (23: 210. 1897). The present part contains some important families, as Acanthaceæ, Verbenaceæ, Labiatae, Euphorbiaceæ, etc. Approximately ninety

²JACKSON, BENJAMIN DAYDON: A glossary of botanic terms, with their derivation and accent. 12mo. pp. xii + 327. London: Duckworth & Co. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1900.

new species are described, about one third of which are Labiatae; and to the same family the single new genus (*Symphostemon*) belongs.—J. M. C.

THE SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS by de Wildeman and Durand, setting forth the flora of Congo, has now reached the completion of the second fascicle.³ In this fascicle it is stated that the number of spermatophytes, which a year ago was estimated to reach 1500, has now reached 2000. The fascicle deals with collections made by Belgian explorers, officers, and missionaries, and contains the descriptions of about twenty-five new species.—J. M. C.

THE FIRST VOLUME of Wiesner's *Die Rohstoffe des Pflanzenreiches* is now completed by the publication of the fifth part.⁴ The subject of yeasts is completed; products of algæ and lichens are elaborated by Dr. F. Krasser (31 pp.), of which the most important is agar, and carrageen or "Irish moss," dye-yielding lichens, "Iceland moss," and "reindeer moss." Dr. W. Figdor treats the galls (27 pp.), and Dr. F. von Höhnelt the barks (96 pp.), with which important section the volume concludes.—C. R. B.

DR. H. A. HARDING, of the N. Y. Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, has found that the black rot of cabbage and allied plants is a widespread disease in Europe,⁵ which has been overlooked by continental pathologists. He observed it in the vicinity of Versailles, Bern, Zürich, Karlsruhe, Bonn, Harlem, Fulda, Halle a. S., Berlin, Kiel and Slagelse in the course of some months of travel in France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, and Denmark in the autumn of 1893. Only in Switzerland and Denmark did the disease seem to be of economic importance.—C. R. B.

THE *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* for 1889, just received, contains the following botanical papers: "Contributions to the flora of Indiana," and "Some unrecognized forms of native trees" (*Asimina triloba*, *Juglans nigra*, *Liriodendron Tulipifera*, and *Disopyros Virginiana*), by STANLEY COULTER; "A list of plants collected at Cedar, Shriner, and Round Lakes," by C. C. DEAM; "The resin ducts and strengthening cells of *Abies* and *Picea* (illustrated), by HERMAN B. DORNER; "A proteolytic enzyme of yeast," and "Saccharomyces anomalus," by KATHERINE E. GOLDEN; "Some problems in *Corallorhiza*," and "The disappearance of *Sedum ternatum*," by M. B. THOMAS.—J. M. C.

³ WILDEMAN, EM. DE ET DURAND, TH.: *Annales du Musée du Congo. Botanique, série II. Contributions a la flore du Congo. Tome I. Fasc. 2. (2^{me} Partie.)* 4to. pp. 49-83. Bruxelles: Charles Vande Weghe. July 1900.

⁴ WIESNER, JULIUS: *Die Rohstoffe des Pflanzenreiches. Versuch einer technischen Rohstofflehre des Pflanzenreiches. Ed. 2. Lief. 5. pp. 641-795, figs. 123-153.* Leipzig: Wm. Engelmann. 1900.

⁵ Die schwarze Fäulniss des Kohls und verwandter Pflanzen, eine in Europa weit verbreitete bakterielle Pflanzenkrankheit. *Centralbl. f. Bakt. II. 6: 305-313, pl. 2 and map.* 1900.